

What is claimed is:

1. A mobile terminal which notifies a base station of a data transmission rate to be used by said mobile terminal, when said mobile terminal starts a call, which comprises:
 - 5 an input means for inputting said data transmission rate;
 - a residual amount detection means for detecting a residual amount of battery power; and
 - a communication rate regulating means for regulating said data transmission rate, on the basis of said residual amount of
 - 10 battery power.
2. The mobile terminal according to Claim 1, which further comprises:
 - a transmission power control unit which receives a downward
 - 15 signal from said base station and controls a transmission power of a upward signal from said base station, depending upon an electric field strength of said downward signal,
 - wherein said communication rate regulating means regulates said data transmission rate, on the basis of both said residual amount of battery power and said electric field
 - 20 strength.
3. The mobile terminal according to Claim 2, wherein said communication rate regulating means comprises:
 - a table for storing prescribed battery holding times and
 - prescribed maximum data transmission rates;
 - 25 a battery holding time calculation unit for calculating an estimated battery holding time, on the basis of said residual amount of battery power and said electric field strength; and
 - a comparison means for searching one of said prescribed battery holding times which is equal to said estimated holding

time, reading out one of said prescribed maximum data transmission rate corresponding to the searched battery holding time in said table, comparing the read-out maximum data transmission rate with said data transmission rate, and
5 notifying said base station of the lower data transmission rate, on the basis of the comparison result.

~~4.~~ A mobile communication system, wherein a plurality of data transmission rates are employed, which comprises:

a base station for controlling data communications in a
10 service area and executing call services; and

a plurality of mobile terminals for requesting said call services, by deciding each transmission data rate of an upward signal toward said base station, on the basis of each residual battery power and each transmission power of a downward
15 signal from said base station.

~~5.~~ A power consumption suppressing method for a mobile terminal for notifying a base station of a data transmission rate to be used by said mobile terminal, when said mobile terminal starts a call, which comprises the steps of:

20 detecting a residual amount of battery power of said mobile terminal, when said data transmission rate is inputted into said mobile terminal;

regulating said data transmission rate, on the basis of said residual amount of battery power; and

25 notifying said base station of the regulated data transmission rate.

6. The power consumption suppressing method according to Claim 5, which further comprises the steps of:

receiving a downward signal from said base station; and

generating a signal representing an electric field strength of said downward signal,

wherein said data transmission rate to be used by said mobile terminal is regulated, on the basis of said residual amount of battery power of said mobile terminal and said electric field strength of said downward signal.

7. The power consumption suppressing method according to Claim 6, wherein the step of regulating the data transmission rate further comprises the steps of:

10 calculating an estimated battery holding time of a battery of said mobile terminal, on the basis of said residual amount of battery power of said mobile terminal and said electric field strength from said base station;

reading out one of prescribed maximum data transmission rates corresponding to said estimated battery holding time from a table for storing said prescribed battery holding times and prescribed maximum data transmission rates;

15 comparing the read-out maximum data transmission rate with said data transmission rate to be used by said mobile terminal; and

20 notifying said base station of the lower data transmission rate, on the basis of the comparison result.

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